NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., (AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE,) NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET.

VOL. XXIII.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 4, 1844. [No. 10.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

DEEP PLOWING.

MR BRECK—In a late number of the Farmer, you stated that the merits of *deep plowing* had been called in question recently, by some writer or writers for the agricultural press, and expressed surprise at the fact. Now, sir, to me, it does not seem at all surprising that deep plowing should be found fault with by some, who, in practicing it, were not guided by very *deep thinking*,—who do not consider the influences of an operation which, disregarded, may counteract its beneficial tendency.

The main ground of the objection to deep plowing, I conceive, is in this—the difference in the quality of subsoils, and the injurious effect of bringing *suddenly* to the surface, poor soil from an unusual depth, without enriching it with sufficient manure, or neutralizing its objectionable properties by the application of substances which have that tendency. Some subsoils are much more deficient in valuable qualities than others, as the eye alone can determine, without the aid of analysis. Mere clay or mere sand, are, as every farmer's boy well knows, of comparatively very little value, in respect to their intrinsic worth *separately*. All subsoils when first brought to the surface, are in a *crude* state, and not of themselves alone at all adapted to support vegetable life with any thing like thriftiness.

A farmer not much inclined to reflection, having seen deep plowing highly recommended, concludes to try it, and plows *at once*, instead of *gradually*, to double his usual depth. Supposing, perhaps, that by this simple operation, he has brought an extra fertile (because a *new*) soil to the surface, he thinks it inexpedient to apply as much manure as formerly, depending on the virtue of the *new* soil for a good crop. Now, in such case, the chances are against a favorable issue at harvest, and if it so results, he is (and very naturally) disposed to pronounce deep plowing not "what it has been cracked up to be."

It is in this way that I account for the merits of this practice being called in question.

In the valuable article by Mr Phinney, re-published in your last number, he says:—"The depth of the plowing should be regulated by the quality of the soil, and quantity of manure to be applied. The soil should be *gradually* deepened, by turning up, at each successive plowing, some of the poorer earth that was no disturbed by the previous plowing, until a sufficient depth of soil is attained. If a liberal dressing of manure can be afforded, the more poor earth may be brought to the surface to mix with it." Upon the same subject, a writer in the Boston Cultivator says:—"Where the upper soil is twelve inches deep, no more is wanted for the support of plants, but the soil may be benefited by stirring the subsoil;—on the contrary, when the soil is not more than three or four inches deep, what is wanted is a sufficient extent of rich soil from which the roots of plants may obtain nourishment. And the only way to do this is to turn up the subsoil, putting on at the same time a larger quantity of manure in proportion to the quantity of subsoil turned up. Merely turning up the subsoil must of course impoverish, if not entirely ruin the land. Something is wanted to convert the crude ingredients into food for plants, and manure will do this."

With the views expressed in the above extracts I fully concur; and their observance in deep plowing, would, no doubt, remove all grounds of objection to the practice,—a practice, which, skilfully conducted, is eminently calculated to make poor soils richer, and rich soils better.

Respectfully, yours, D.

☞Our correspondent's views, are, without doubt, correct. Taking another view of the benefits of deep plowing, (a subject of the highest interest,) a writer in the Farmers' Cabinet, says:—"The impression among unreflecting farmers is almost universal, that the value of deep plowing consists in the increased amount of soil in which the roots may vegetate. Whatever advantage the greater amount of loose soil may be, it is by no means the most important one. We all know that growing grain suffers from extremes of heat and cold, wet and drought Late in the fall, when we always have rain, the six inches of vegetable soil are soon filled with water, and perhaps the cold of the succeeding night freezes it, and thus are the roots of your wheat embedded in ice, to suffer during the approaching winter. But if the land had previously undergone the operation of plowing nine inches deep, followed by a *subsoil plow*, nine inches more, the rain had scarcely ceased to fall until it had sunk beneath that surface which the roots occupy. In a soil six inches deep, with a hard subsoil, rain has no place to go; but in eighteen inches, its own weight sinks it below the possibility of doing harm. And while you thus have your wheat secured for the winter, in a comparatively dry soil, clear of ice and its evil consequences, in the spring you have a vigorous plant, free from the sallow sickness of an icy bed, prepared to take advantage of the first genial sun which the spring brings with it. And now, from this period until harvest, the hopes and fears of the farmer are controlled by the season: too much wet drowns his wheat; too much heat blasts it with mildew, and drought prevents it from filling. Deep plowing obviates all these contingencies. Wheat is drowned out, because its roots are in the water; mildew blasts it, because the hot sun beats upon a surface saturated with water, and produces a sudden flow of sap in the plant, which is unnatural; your wheat does not fill, because, perhaps, there is not moisture enough in the earth to replenish the plant; but if your loose soil be deep enough, no matter how much or how long it rains, it will have scarcely ceased until the roots are relieved. Pour a bucket of water upon a sponge, and you have but just quit pouring until the upper surface is comparatively dry; so it is with the spongy earth—the water's own weight takes it immediately below the place where harm is done, not to be lost, but to remain there as a reservoir, to replenish the thirsty plant through that season when drought so often does its destructive work."

EXTRACTS

From the London Agricultural Gazette.

Action of Roots.—In illustration of the fact that plants draw all their nourishment from the small roots at their extremities, and are little, if at all, affected by having the larger ones exposed to the weather, I have lately had a convincing proof. In repairing a vinery, I was desirous to have the front wall, which was originally of solid brick-work, built on arches, for the benefit of some of my best vines. They are planted in the inside of the house, but I have some on the outside, likewise, which I wished to retain until their places are supplied with young ones. From these outside it was necessary that all the soil should be removed; and knowing that it was a stiff adhesive clay, and that there would be few small roots close to the stem, I commenced at it and removed the soil away for a distance of three yards. In that state the roots lay exposed from the end of March to the beginning of May; nevertheless I find that the vines have broken as strong as usual, and show about the same quantity of grapes.—*J. M.*

Pears.—The introduction of so many good kinds of pears of late, is a very great acquisition. Some of them not only surpass many of the old kinds in flavor, but also in fruitfulness, even in situations where some of the old sorts do not bear well. Witness, for instance, the fine fruit of the Napoleon or Marie Louise, on a north-west wall, where the Crassane and Brown Beurre are cracked and gritty. The Marie Louise succeeds better on a west or east aspect than on a south one: this is owing to its being retarded in such situations until the weather becomes warmer: it blooms too soon when exposed to the south, and consequently suffers from cold and frosty winds. Many of these lately-introduced varieties keep much longer than the old ones. When this is fully known, we need not be surprised to see pears take the place of peaches and nectarines, which are difficult to keep. Old barren pear trees should be grafted with the new kinds.—*J. Wighton.*

Guano.—Contracts for Ichaboe (African) guano have been signed to be delivered from March to middle of May, 1845, at 6*l.* 6*s.* per ton, at Liverpool. The last news from the island of Ichaboe was, that 100 ships were then waiting their turn to load. It is thought by some that in 12 months the stock of guano on Ichaboe island will be exhausted; but it is said there are other islands equally valuable. If that was the case, why should so many ships wait so patiently their turn to be laden. The supply of African guano here (Liverpool) is very liberal. It is calculated by many importers that guano will be bought on better terms the next three months, than will happen again for years; for the number of ships on their passage to load at Ichaboe, and those returning laden, will overstock the market, as the season will be over before they can arrive.—*W. H. Harwood, Liverpool.*

Saline manures not only supply food, but acting as stimulants, enable plants to derive more food from the soil than they otherwise would.—*Loudon*

POTATO BLOSSOMS.

My potato garden of last season, was divided by the avenue, two-thirds on one side and one-third on the other. I commenced pulling off the blossoms from this one-third, intending to do so to the whole lot, it being a favorite theory with me that the blossom weakens the tuber; but I did not pluck any more than this one-third, because people said it was useless. This third was planted in the middle of April, the remainder towards the end of that month. Those from which the blossoms were pulled were much more productive, and that produce very superior in quality and appearance to the other portion.

Being very particular in the selection of my seed, I had them sorted as usual, before storing, and placed them in separate pits; those for seed being put in small pits, two feet wide, and those for sale or consumption, in pits five or six feet wide. The potatoes put in the small pits for seed, were selected from the two-thirds planted in the end of April, as I always heard it recommended to use the late rather than the early ones for seed. This lot for seed, remember, were from the potatoes from which no blossoms were pulled.

This season we commenced planting on the 20th of April, from the seed so selected in the small pits; but as the seed ran short, we opened the large six feet pit, and sowed nearly as much more; the only difference beside the seed was, that what was allowed to blossom last season had fine, well rotted, well prepared dung, while the seed that had the blossoms picked, had manure recently gathered from the yard, fresh and strawy; the difference now, however, is very great—those from which the blossoms were taken, having come up stronger, and far outstripped the others; among the latter there are some failures, but not one from the unblossomed seed.

Where great care in planting and manuring has been taken, and yet the crop grows slowly, it is an evidence that the seed was not the soundest. To the weakness of the seed all failures may be traced; therefore, to grow and preserve the seed, should be the chief concern in potato culture.

So far for the practical result of my experiment; and in theory I believe botanists would advise that to pull off the blooms will add to the tubers: that it adds to the *quality* and *soundness*, the above result fully satisfies me. If keeping the blossoms off prolongs the existence of the plant, as it did with me last season, the substance required to form them, must serve to add to the quantity and quality of the tubers below; for of the two objects to be attained by a plant—that of bearing seed above, and forming tubers below—it will surely do *one* much more perfectly, if its energy be confined to it, than the *two*. I am so entirely in favor of taking off the blossoms, that I shall not try any further *comparative* experiments myself, but will destroy all the blossoms with as much care as I would the weeds. The general adoption of this practice would give employment to many poor children, and this is a worthy object. I pick the blossoms off before they expand; the flower-stalk being then brittle, the operation is much more easily performed. —*Correspondent Dublin Farmers' Gazette.*

Last year we stated that a gentleman of our acquaintance had planted beans in the same rows with potatoes. The result, we learn, exceeded his expectation—the produce being 36 bushels of beans and 12 1-2 tons of potatoes per acre, both of excellent quality.—*Dumfries Cour.*

[☞We invite the particular attention of our readers to the excellent suggestions contained in the following article. They are as valuable and as practicable here, as on the other side of the Atlantic, from whence they come.—N. E. Far.]

LIQUID MANURE.

It is now a pretty general belief among farmers, that there is "some good" in liquid manures; but, somehow or other, we never see much preparation either for the collection or application of this, the cheapest and most valuable of all manures, and we verily believe that the subject is as yet scarcely thought of (in a way to lead to any practical result) by one *bona fide* rent-paying farmer out of a thousand. Now, having for several years been an experimenter in this way, and sensible of the very great importance and value of liquid manures, I shall here take the liberty of throwing in my mite to the general fund, by communicating the little I have gained by experience, to my fellow-farmers.

As I discard all chemical formula—the tank, watering cart, and other *et ceteras*—from my system, and attach the fertilizing ingredients to a substance which farmers can actually work in with spades and shovels, I have the more hope that my plan will be followed.

Chemists, generally, do not tell us the reason why liquid manures will not do much good when applied in a fresh state, though this is perfectly plain to all reflecting men. Liquid manure, if applied upon an impervious or gravelly soil, in a fresh state, is not retained long enough for its decomposition to take place, or for the roots to drink it up. It is put on liquid manure, and runs off in the same state; but apply it to a soil rich in decayed or decaying vegetable matter, and on which a vigorous vegetation is going on, and it never fails of its extraordinary effects. The plan of administering liquid manures in a perfectly fresh state, is probably the best of any, were it not for the continued care and consequent expense necessary in supplying our crops with saturated water in all their stages throughout the year, and were we certain of the exact strength of the solution suited to their wants.

As we, therefore, cannot apply our liquid manures on the best principle, on account of the expense, we must try the next best plan, that of decomposing them by the aid of decomposed vegetable matter; and this can happily be done, to great perfection, by reducing the vegetable matter to the state of carbon or charcoal—which we make from peat, as being trifling in expense, easily pulverized, and withal an excellent manure of itself. We divide a shed, into two compartments, one of which we make water-tight, by puddling the side walls with clay, to the height, say, of two feet, and separated from the other compartment by a low water-tight wall or boarding. This is my fermenting tank, which is filled half or three parts full of pulverized burnt peat, and the liquid manure from the stable, pig-styes, &c. directed into it. This is mixed up with the pulverized peat and allowed to remain three or four weeks, till the decomposition seems about completed, being occasionally stirred about after the composition has become about the consistency of gruel. The whole is then ladled (with a pole and bucket) over the low partition into the second floor, which is also three parts filled with carbonized peat; and as this second floor is meant merely as a filter, we have it lower on one side than the other, by which means, in the course of a day or two, the carbonized peat is left comparatively dry. The water having passed off at the lower side, the first or fermenting floor is again filled as before, and the contents of the second floor, if considered saturated enough, are then shoveled up into a corner, and allowed to drip, and further dry till used, which may be either immediately, or at the end of twenty years, as scarcely anything will affect it, if not exposed to the continued washing of pure water, or exposed to the influence of the roots of growing plants. By being thinly spread on a granary floor it soon becomes perfectly dry, and suited to pass through drill machines.

The mixing of the carbonized peat with the liquid manure on the first or fermenting floor, it will be observed, is for laying hold of the gaseous matters as they escape during the fermentation; perhaps other substances may effect this more effectually, but none so cheaply. I think by this plan it will be obvious to every one that a great many desiderata are at once obtained. In the first place, you get free of about 956 parts out of every 1000 of the weight and bulk of manure, by the expulsion of the water; while at the same time you link all the fertilizing properties contained in it to one of the most handy vehicles—light, cleanly, and portable, and possessed of the peculiar property of holding together the most volatile substances, till gradually called forth by the exigencies of the growing plants. Lastly, you get free of the nasty tank, and the abominable hogshead and watering cart, with all its appendages, and are no more bothered with overflowing tank or over-fermented liquid, with weather unsuited for its application. You have merely to shovel past the saturated charcoal, and shovel in a little fresh stuff, and the process goes on again of its own "sweet will;" while the prepared stuffs lie ready for all crops, all seasons, and all times.

The solid matter in the urine of the cow is estimated, by very high authority, to be equal in value to its weight of South American guano.

I beg my fellow-farmers clearly to understand, that I make no pretensions to this plan of applying liquid manure being a new discovery. It is merely a modification of your old and tried plan of bottoming your dunghills with peat; but by charring, the peat is freed of its antiseptic qualities, and thus becomes of itself a much better and speedier manure, and an admirable filter. But even peat, thoroughly dried and perfectly pulverized, I have no doubt might answer the end indifferently well. —*Inverness Cour.*

Guano.—The Lancaster Guardian says: the most easy and simple method of detecting an adulteration is guano, and also ascertaining the quality of the article, is the following:—Take four pounds of guano, and add one quart of water for every one of guano; stir them well together, and let them stand for a few days; if the guano be good, it will float an egg or a potato, and if it floats well, add water in half pints until the egg or potato sinks to the bottom; and that guano which floats an egg with the greatest quantity of water is the best. If any earth or sand has been mixed with the guano it will be found at the bottom of the vessel.

Tomato Tart.—Roll out your dough very thin and place it on the plate in which you intend baking your tart, and slice your tomatoes very thin, spread them over the dough very thinly, take about two table spoonsful of brown sugar, and one of ground cinnamon bark; spread the two over the tomatoes, bake it well, and you have a fine tart.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Aug. 31, 1844.

From Col. M. P. Wilder, Presd't of the Society: Dahlias, viz: Lady St. Maure, Essex Triumph, Great Western, Mrs. Shelly, Caleb Cope, Dodd's Prince of Wales, &c.

From Samuel Walker, bouquets.

From Sam'l Sweetser, Roses, Asters, Dahlias, Hemanthus, &c.

From John Gordon, Brighton; Dahlias, Asters, and Balsams.

From Parker Barnes, Asters, Dahlias, Zinnias, Gladiolus, &c.

From Miss Sumner, bouquets.

From Messrs. Winship, bouquets.

From Wm. Meller, bouquets and cut flowers.

From Jno. Hovey, Asters, Dahlias, and bouquets.

From Joseph Breck & Co., Dahlias, Asters, Roses, Zinnias, 25 var. Verbenas, Double Balsams, Euphorbia variegata, Ferrarias, Thunbergias, Maurandias, Rudbeckias, Phloxes, Centaureas, Didiscus, Stocks, Catananche, Lobelias, and a great variety of other cut flowers.

From John Parker, Roxbury, Dahlias and Balsams.

From Wm. Kenrick, Noisette, Tea, China and other perpetual Roses, Bignonias, Dracocephalum, Altheas, German Asters, Solidago, Verbenas, Dahlias, Gladiolus, and other cut flowers; also, bouquets, and a basket of flowers.

From John Arnold, a great variety of China Roses, Dahlias, &c.

From Edward Allen, bouquets, and Dahlias—very fine specimens, viz. Hero of Stonhenge, Lady St. Maure, four fine flowers from one stalk, Great Western, Beauty of Sussex, Plowboy, Andrew Hofer, Oakley's Surprise, &c.

From J. Stickney, Dahlias and German Asters.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, bouquets and White Water Lilies.

From Messrs. Hovey, bouquets, &c.

From Sam'l A. Walker, Brookline, a beautiful wreath of flowers and bouquets.

For the Committee,

JOSEPH BRECK, *Chm'n.*

Vegetables.—Six remarkably large and fine fruit of the Egg Plant, by Mr Thomas Wade, of Brookline.

Fine specimens of Green Minorca and Prussian Melons were shown from "Woodland," by Mr James Nugent, of Brookline.

JNO. A. KENRICK.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, Aug. 24, 1844.

Hon. J. S. Cabot, of Salem, presented very fine specimens of the Jargonelle Pears; also, specimens of the Sugar Hoyerswerda and Passans du Portugal do.

Hon. T. H. Perkins, by his gardener, Mr Wm. Quant, some extra fine specimens of Heath Peach, and beautiful Bloomfield Nectarine.

Chief Justice Shaw presented some very superior specimens of Bolmar Washington Plums.

Cheever Newhall, Esq., of Dorchester, specimens of Bingham Plum.

Samuel Phipps, Esq., of Dorchester, Plums—Bolmar Washington, Duane's Purple, Purple Gage, Yellow Egg, Prince's Imperial Gage, and extra fine specimens of Green Gage.

Mr Geo. Johnson, Lynn, fine specimens of Washington Plums.

Mr Geo. Arnold, of Milton, some fine clusters of Black Hamburg Grapes.

J. F. Allen, Esq., of Salem, presented some superb and extra sized Elruge Nectarines: these specimens were truly beautiful.

Mr. N. Cooledge, Boston, Sweetwater Grapes.

Mr George Merriam, West Newton, some beautiful specimens of Rareripe Peaches, and also some fine Bartlett Pears.

From the Pomological Garden, Salem, Early York Peaches; Pears—Green Sugar of Hoyerswerda, Rostiezer, (one of the best, if not *the* best Pear of the season;) Limon, of Van Mons; Elizabeth, of do. Plums—Washington, Kirk's new, Bingham, (fine,) English Wheat, Isabella. Apples—Putnams Harvey, Devonshire, Quarrenden, Beau, Charlomowski, Hillar's Grande, and Irish Peach.

Aaron D. Williams, Esq., of Roxbury, Jargonelle (French) Pears. Apples, some fine specimens; among them we noticed the Williams' Apple in perfection.

D. Roberts, Esq., of Salem, specimens of the English Wheat Plum.

Peaches, very large, from the garden, of Madam Bigelow, of Medford.

Mr J. D. White, of Roxbury, Washington Plums.

Mr Sam'l R. Johnson, of Charlestown, exhibited some of the finest specimens of the Bolmar Washington Plum which we have had on our table so far the present season. We still expect to see other and very fine specimens, but whoever intends to surpass Mr Johnson's specimens, color, size, and fine bloom considered, must show something *very* superior. Seven of Mr Johnson's Plums weighed 1 lb. 5 7-8 oz.

J. W. Sever, Esq., of Dorchester, Orleans, Monsieur, and White Gage Plums, and Summer Franc Real Pears.

Mr L. P. Bartlett, Apples—var. Bartlett Sweet and Pumpkin Sweet.

Messrs. Winship, Brighton, Crawford (?) and specimens of Winships' Seedling Peach. The specimens of the Seedling were rather over ripe. We should call it good but not first rate.

Mr S. Pond, very fine Washington, Isabella, Smith's Orleans, and Long Blue French Plums.

Capt. Josiah Lovett 2d, Beverly, fine Washington and Long Blue Plums, and Benoni Apple.

Mr C. Sumner, Dorchester, some very large specimens of a green Apple. What does Mr S. call it?

Mr A. Davis, Washington and Green Gage Plums.

Madam Howard, Woodland, (by her gardener, Mr Jas. Nugent,) Smith's Orleans, Washington, Duane's Purple, and Pond's Seedling Plums.

Aaron D. Weld, Esq., Roxbury, Peaches; Seedling Apples (?) two var. and William's Favorite.

Geo. Newhall, Esq., Dorchester, Washington Plums, Pomegranates from Charleston, S. C.; Benoni and red and green Sweeting Apples.

Mr E. T. Andrews, Bough Apples and Washington Plums.

Mr J. L. L. F. Warren, Brighton, Plums—Bingham (fine) and Washington: Pears—Dearborn's Seedling, Julienne, Petit Blanquette: Apples—Porter, (fine,) Grand Sachem: Grapes—Black Hamburg.

H. Vandine, Plums—Duan's Purple, Smith's Orleans, Early Black (?) Washington, and Yellow Gage: Pears—Sugar of Hoyerswerda.

E. Edes Bradshaw, Esq., Moor Park Apricots; Washington, Early Black (?) and Queen Red (?) Plums.

By Mr Hartwell, (New England Nursery,) Apples—Niac Pippin, Orange Pippin, and a seedling Apple of good flavor, color and size. We should like to see other specimens of this fruit.

Benj. Poore, Esq., of Indian Hill Farm, Newbury, a specimen of the "Red and Green Sweeting" Apple.

Sam'l A. Walker, Esq., of Brookline, some good specimens of Bolmar Washington Plums, and Rareripe Peaches.

Mr John Milton Earle, Worcester, Peaches—No. 1, Early Ann: Plums—No. 1, Royal de Tours? No. 2, Smith's Orleans; No. 3, Prince's Imperial Gage; No. 4, Red? No. 5, Green Gage; No. 6, Quetsche d' Italic.

S. Walker, Roxbury, Pears—Belle de Bruxells, Summer Franc Real, Andrews, Fondante d' Autanne, Summer Rose and Belle et Bonne.

For the Committee,

S. WALKER, *Chm'n.*

FULTON PEAR.

This excellent pear is a native of Maine. We have many excellent pears which have originated from seed in different parts of the State, and we hope the *few* nurserymen that we have, will look after them and bring them into cultivation and notice. We copy the following account from Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture, though it appeared originally in the New England Farmer. It was communicated by Mr John Abbott, who was formerly a professor in Bowdoin College. Mr Abbott says: "With respect to the history of this pear, I have to inform you that a family by the name of Fulton, about fifty years ago, removed from the county of Plymouth, Mass., to Topsham, in this neighborhood, and commenced a new farm. In a year or two after, Mr Fulton and his wife returned to Massachusetts to visit their friends, when she collected a considerable quantity of pear seeds, which she planted on her return home. I have counted on his farm, about forty trees of this one woman's planting. I have resided in Brunswick twentysix years, and have nearly as long been acquainted with this pear, (the Fulton.) As it is the only good pear for the market in this neighborhood, I supply myself with it for three or four weeks, by having them gathered and brought me before they soften. I have them as delicious thus ripened in the house, as on trees.—*Maine Far.*

☞An editor of one of the agricultural papers in our neighborhood, pretty plainly insinuates his opinion that an editor of another agricultural paper near by us, is "*a sheep!*" This is none of our concern, nor do we propose to offer our services as mediator in the matter; but we may be permitted to say, that in case of such a missile being thrown at *our* head, we might (very good naturedly) indulge in the recrimination of calling our assailant a *pumpkin!* While we should thus, we think, hit him full as hard as he did us, neither of us would be deviating from our legitimate sphere, since *sheep* and *pumpkins* both pertain to agriculture, and agricultural editors, therefore, have a perfectly good right to make as free use of the *terms* as they see fit.—[*Humbly submitted by the* "*P. D.*"

Accumulating and saving manure is the rock on which the farmer must build his hopes of prosperity in his pursuit.

WAGES OF FARM LABORERS IN ENGLAND.

The wages (per year) paid in the county of Northumberland, as given by several gentlemen familiar with the subject, to the parliamentary committee, are as follows:

First Example.

36 bushels of oats,
24 " barley,
12 " peas,
3 " wheat,
3 " rye,
36 to 40 " potatoes,
24 pounds of wool,
A cow's keep for a year,
Cottage and garden,
Coals from the pit,
£4 in cash.

Second Example.

10 bushels of wheat,
30 " oats,
10 " barley,
10 " rye,
10 " peas,
A cow's keep for a year,
800 yards of land for potatoes,
Cottage and garden,
Coals,
£3 10s. in cash,
2 bush. barley in lieu of hens.

Third Example.

36 bushels of oats,
24 " barley,
12 " peas,
6 " wheat,
1000 yards of land for potatoes,
A cow's keep,
House and garden,
Coals,
£5 in cash.

The Scotch laborers seemed to me, from a very limited observation, strongly attached to their employers. On one farm where I had the pleasure of visiting, one of the laborers had been in the employ of the same family forty years, and another sixty; to each of whom, although their labor now was of little value, the farmer continued the same rate of wages which they had in early life. This, indeed, would seem to be no more than just, that the honest laborer, whose life had been spent in the service of another man, should not be turned adrift in his old age; but, alas, how rare is justice!

The condition of the laborers in this country is a subject of such deep concern to the community, on the ground of pecuniary profit, as well as philanthropy and justice, that I shall again revert to it. The common wages of farm labor, vary for men, from five shillings to twelve shillings per week; but I think a fair average would be eight to nine shillings sterling. A shilling may be reckoned at twentyfour cents, so that the monthly wages for a man may be put down at eight dollars and sixty-four cents. This is the whole, where labor is paid for in money, excepting, as a matter of kindness, the farmer generally brings the coals for his laborer. I am not yet able to speak of the condition of things in Scotland, but it is constantly boasted that the education of the Scotch laborer is always provided for, and that, in point of instruction, they are far superior to the English. This remains for me to see.—*Colman's First Report on European Agriculture.*

SAND AS AN IMPROVER OF SOIL.

Sand, as every body knows, is an aggregation of loose, small grains. Generally it is believed that the grains consist merely of quartz or silica, but by closer examination it is found that many grains of felspar, mica, iron ore, silicates of potash, soda and lime, oxide of iron, &c. are amongst the main mass. If, therefore, sand is brought on fields, we must not believe that it merely improves them mechanically; on the contrary, we may assume that it furnishes them with sources of vegetable nutriment. Because, although the mineral substances of which it is composed are not soluble in water, still they are decomposed by the humic acid, and gradually changed into food of plants. For marshy, or very humic soils, even the quartz is a manure, as it supplies them with silica, in which they are mostly deficient.

As the value of sand, as a manuring substance, consists in the quantity of those of its mineral component parts which are fit for becoming the food of plants, obviously that is to be chosen which is richest in lime, soda, potash, and magnesia silicates: this, however, can be only ascertained by chemical analysis. Sand, moreover, used as manure, ought to be very fine, as it will then present to the humic and carbonic acids, which have to decompose its silicates, a greater scope for contact; a clayey soil, nevertheless, which has to be loosened and improved by sand, requires one of coarse grains. Although sand, generally speaking, is only used for the improvement of clayey or very humic soils, it may be also useful for chalky soils, as these are always deficient in that quantity of silica which is required by the grain-bearing plants.

On stiff clayey soils, which require an improved texture, a sand is to be used which contains many grains of lime, as those will loosen the soil even better than grains of quartz. On the sea-coast that sort of sand, therefore, which is thrown out by the waves, is used with much success for the improving of clayey fields, as it always contains fragments of shells, rich in carbonate of lime. It is generally first used as litter, and then carried (mixed with excrements) to the clayey fields, which, if the process is often repeated, will not only be improved physically, but also become very fertile.

The coarse sand may be spread over a clayey field to the thickness of half an inch, at the time when it is used as pasture, as in this case it will not only be trodden in by the cattle, but will work downward into the crevices which are to be found in a dried up clayey soil—an operation which will be also assisted by the rain-water. The first subsequent plowing is done very shallow, and the first crop should be oats. After the lapse of a few years or when the field is used as a pasture, sand is again spread to the above thickness, which, in fact is repeated until the clayey soil is changed into a loamy one. The same process is resorted to if sand is used for the improving of moors, peaty and marshy soils, but here the thickness of the sand may be 1 to 1 1-2 inch. It will improve the moor, and bring the organic matters to speedier decomposition.

On fields rich in humus, where rye is grown, sand a quarter or half an inch thick, may also be strewed to great advantage in winter, on the frozen soil; it will also tend to prevent the freezing of the crops during spring. As before stated, the sand may be used in the stable as litter, before applying it.

When sand is used in large quantities, its effects are lasting, unless on marshy soil it sinks so deep as to be beyond the reach of the roots; in this case it will even act no longer physically; so that the spreading of it must be repeated. Clayey and chalky soils, on the other hand, will be constantly improved by large quantities of sand, as the water cannot then carry off any of it.—*Prof. Sprengel.*

From the New York Observer.

AGE OF APPLE TREES—DO NATURAL TREES OUTLIVE THE GRAFTED?

"Apple trees live to a great age. There is a tree on Peak's island, in Portland harbor, that has been known to bear fruit every season for more than a hundred years."

The above paragraph was in your summary of last week; and as I observe you have a small agricultural department in your paper, I take the liberty of submitting a few remarks suggested by the above extract.

The fact stated is unquestionable. I can well remember, when it was a common thing to see apple trees not only of vast age, but of immense stature. When I was but a child, I can distinctly recollect the remains of an orchard, on my father's farm, the principal part of which the British had cut down for fuel. Eight or ten trees only remained, a venerable cluster in one corner of the field. Almost every tree was not far from two feet in diameter, and in form more like the lofty and wide-spread oak, than our present apple trees. Some of them were from forty to fifty feet high, and of proportional breadth. I can well recollect, also, the gradual decay of these early tenants of the virgin soil, and the remarkable tenacity with which they clung to life. As one large limb after another decayed and fell, new and vigorous young shoots would spring forth and grow with astonishing rapidity. I recollect one tree in particular, whose limbs all decayed and fell off, one after another, till nothing but a hollow trunk, reduced to a perfect shell, about *eight* feet high, remained. And yet this apparently lifeless cylinder sent forth strong shoots near its top, which grew and bore fruit for many years. And it is now but a few years, since the last remains of this ancient orchard were eradicated from the soil.

What rendered the longevity of these venerable trees the more striking was, that on this same farm was another orchard of *ten acres*, that had been set out with great care, only a few years before the revolutionary war, and was then too small to tempt the depredations of the enemy, and these trees long ago put on the appearance of premature old age; and now scarcely a solitary tree remains to remind one that the ground was once an orchard. In fact, it is many years since it lost that name. This orchard, I may add, had been grafted with great care, with a choice variety of fruit, and when I first knew it, was flourishing and productive.

I have stated these facts with some particularity, for the sake of suggesting some inquires, as the following:

Is it common, now-a-days, to meet with very large and aged apple trees, except where they were set out on the virgin soil of the country? And if not, as I suspect will be found to be the fact, to what cause is the decay of our later planted orchards to be ascribed? We know, by sad experience, that many other kinds of trees, which once grew, in all these regions, almost spontaneously, and bore fruit abundantly, as the peach and plum, for instance, now require to be cultivated with the

greatest care, and even then are exceedingly short-lived. Many a time, when I was a boy ,have I, after eating a fine peach, said to my companions, I will now plant this stone, and, if my life is spared, in three years I will eat of its fruit; and as often have I realized the fulfilment of the prediction. In those days, our hedges were loaded with peaches, which, from their mere abundance, the very hogs disdained to eat, except to crack the stone and eat the pit! This fact I have witnessed with my own eyes. Why, then, has it become so difficult to raise peaches? Is it to be imputed to any change in the climate? or to the exhaustion of some particular property of the soil? And does not the same cause operate on our apple orchards?

But there is another inquiry which I wish to submit. Are not all these large and aged apple trees the production of *the natural fruit?* Can any man point me to an apple tree one hundred, or even seventyfive years of age, that was grafted, as our present method is, on the stock, or that was grafted in any way? Every man knows that a grafted tree is merely a continuation of the old one; and, therefore, though its existence be prolonged by insertion into a new stock, it will, notwithstanding, in a few years, put on all the appearances of premature old age; and the sooner, as the process of grafting has been the more frequently performed with the same variety.

We have become so fond of grafting and budding, that most men disdain a natural tree, however vigorous, except for a stock to be tortured and murdered; or, if success attends the transformation, to be consigned to an early death. But is this extreme wise? Where did our delicious, grafted fruit come from at first? And although the seed will not all produce the same variety, yet some of it will, or others still more excellent.

I will venture then, to suggest, in conclusion, that if we would cultivate more natural trees, of all kinds of fruit, and letting them stand till, "by their fruits ye can know them," and then preserve the good and destroy the bad, we shall not only obtain new and improved varieties, but greatly prolong the life of our trees. On the present procedure, one thing is certain as the course of nature—our finest fruits must soon fail. Of this we have striking evidence in the general failure of the Newton Pippin, which was once as universally fair as oranges, and of a large size, but now often small and knotty. Other examples might be given: but I must stop—my sheet is full.

A Long Island Farmer.

STEAMING FOOD FOR CATTLE.

The following is a portion of the remarks of Mr Lathbury, an extensive farmer, at a late meeting of one of the English Farmers' Clubs. We copy from the London Agricultural Gazette:

"With regard to the steaming of food, there were various opinions. The experiments which had been tried seemed to prove that no advantage attended it in the case of grain or roots; and though it was admitted that the steaming of dry fodder enabled cattle to extract a larger portion of nutriment from a given quantity, yet it was doubted whether the cost of the process did not outweigh the advantage gained. He was of opinion that where the cost could be reduced to so insignificant a sum as by his method, the advantage was great.

The effect of steaming was not to alter the nature of the food: it did not convert poor food into rich: its simple effect was to render more of the nutritious part of the food digestible. By bruising grain, every particle was exposed to the action of the juices of the stomach; and cattle could crush the substance of roots and green crops thoroughly with their teeth; but in dry fodder, some part of the nutriment escaped the action of the stomach, because the fibre could not be thoroughly broken up by mastication. By cutting fodder into short lengths, and steaming, it was rendered tender, and made to resemble green food. By steaming, both hay and straw might be made more nutritious, and we might substitute a portion of straw for hay, and still keep cattle doing as well as on dry hay alone.

During the past winter he had 90 head of cattle and horses, and he fed them during the whole time on steamed hay and straw. Up to the 14th of February, he kept all his stock on one-third hay mixed with two-thirds straw. After that time, finding his cows get in low condition, he used half straw and half hay, and gave the milking beasts a foddering of hay morning and night. As they calved, he added a pound of linseed to their steamed food. With this diet his cows grew fast and got into milk as well as he ever remembered.

Contrasting his consumption of hay in this and former years, he calculated that he had saved 30 tons. The difference between the price of 30 tons of hay and the 30 tons of straw which supplied its place, reckoning hay at 3*l.* 10*s.* and straw at 1*l.* 5*s.*, would amount to 67*l.* 10*s.*, while the expense of cutting and steaming amounted to less than 5*l.*"

SHELL-FISH AS MANURE.

Having noticed the good effects of shell-fish in gardens, applied to carrot and onion beds, it occurred to a gentleman of our acquaintance that the same species of manure would be found equally useful on a larger scale, in the case of a green crop cultivated in the open field. Accordingly, he instructed his laborer to repair to the shore, and excavate four cartloads of live shell-fish, composed chiefly of wilks, cockles, and muscles. When carried home, the deposite was thrown into a heap, and allowed to remain until it began to emit an unpleasant odor. Warning thus given, the shells were smashed and mixed with peat earth, to absorb the moisture and facilitate the application. They were then laid in the drills, after the manner of bons, at the rate of 16 bushels per acre; sown with turnips; and, the better to test the utility of the experiment, turnips were planted the same day over thick layers of barn-yard manure. The seed on the shells took a wonderful start, the plants showing themselves at the end of three days, notwithstanding the intense drought; while the dung operated so slowly, that eight days elapsed before the slightest tendency to greening appeared.

Thus far the shells and substance enclosed have worked perfect wonders, and bid fair to outvie crushed bones, and even guano. The carbonate of lime and animal matter in shell-fish, are great nourishers of vegetable life.—*Dumfries Courier.*

HERDS GRASS.

Messrs. Editors:—I was forcibly struck in reading a quotation in the Boston Cultivator of July 20th, giving some very interesting information relating to raising and cutting herds grass, by Mr. Isaac Reeves. I have gained a little practical knowledge which perhaps will serve to confirm the correctness of Mr. Reeves's statement, as well as corroborate his theory in regard to the bleeding of the roots of that plant.

In March or April, 1843, I sowed herds grass, red top and clover seed on a field prepared the fall previous, which vegetated to appearance without the failure of a seed; some of the herds grass grew more than a yard in length, and when it had attained its growth, before seeding and while full of "blood," I had it cut and hayed, which was a fine crop for the first year. This present season I have had the same lot mowed, and was disappointed in not finding a spear of the herds grass except at one end of the field, where it had been more highly manured than the rest of the lot: I immediately formed the opinion that I had killed my herds grass by early mowing the previous year; and fully believe with Mr. Reeves, that it will "bleed to death" by too early mowing.

Thirty or forty years ago I resided in a town in the State of Maine, where there were wealthy farmers, and I was not a little surprised at their negligence in cutting their herds grass, which was very abundant from year to year on the same ground, and without being manured. I wished them to state their reasons for delaying cutting their herds grass till late in August, which they readily did, by stating, "that the hay was heartier, and would spend better, and that they must wait till some of the seed should fall from the heads to propagate new grass, as the old would run out in time; and that it was necessary there should be seed scattered annually, to sustain a full crop in subsequent years." I must confess that I, at that time, viewed such reasoning as fanciful, but more experience induces me to become a believer, after having suffered severely from loss, in cutting my herds grass so early as to exterminate the most of it for many years past from my mowing fields.

S. Brown.

Wilmington, July 27, 1844.

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

We gave our views a few weeks since on the advantages of cutting herds grass when the seed was full, as the result of experience, though it was said in times past that it should be cut when in blossom. The best farmers in the country, when able to cut their grass at any time they choose, seldom commence haying till herds grass is in blossom, unless it is lodged, and of course cutting the greater part as near as possible the time the seed is well grown. Thus we find experience and the best practice in accordance with the views we have advanced, old fashioned whims to the contrary notwithstanding, as they avail but little with men of experience and intelligence.

Messrs. Ayres and Enslin, skilful and observing farmers, in Roxbury, lately remarked in reference to the above subject, that they had a piece of herds grass which they cut late annually, that it was in the same condition and treated the same as other lots that were cut earlier, and the late cut land continued to produce good crops while the other failed, and they supposed that the difference was owing to the different periods of cutting, as they could assign no other cause. We have known a piece of high land, mostly in herds grass, that was always mowed the last on the farm, which was generally after the seed was full, and it continued to produce a good crop for more than 25 years in succession, without ploughing, or dressing of any kind, though fed every fall.—And though cut late, later than the period we have recommended as best, the hay was good, substantial and nutricious, and cattle eat it without any indications of complaint. Is it not reasonable to suppose that the late cutting was a cause of the long continuance of a good crop?—*Bost. Cult.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 1844.

DISAPPEARANCE OF THE CURCULIO—NEGLECT OF THE CULTIVATION OF CHOICE FRUITS.

From some cause, which we are not able to explain, the curculio, that for so many years frustrated the hopes of the horticulturist, has this year, in a great measure disappeared, and in every direction we notice a most abundant crop of plums and other fine fruit heretofore subject to their ravages. To what cause may we attribute their sudden exit? Was it the severe cold winter which gave them the check? If so, we may well afford to lose a crop of peaches occasionally, by the severity of the weather, if by it the plum may be saved from the ravages of these insects. We travelled into the interior, last week, and wherever there was a plum tree, it was invariably full, crowded, and often breaking down under its heavy burden. But as no pains have been taken to thin out the fruit—a precaution not often attended to in the country—it is of less than the usual size.

Why do the farmers in some sections of the country, neglect the culture of fine fruits, where the soil is so well adapted to their luxuriant growth, and when it requires so little care and attention? There is much ignorance manifested among the agricultural class in the interior, respecting the culture of choice fruits generally, and an apparent indifference about the matter, also. It is not in every garden we find a plum tree, and if there are a few occasionally to be found, they are often the offspring or suckers of some ancient tree, which perhaps accidentally came up on the spot; and the fruit of such trees, though in instances good, is generally of a very inferor quality. The owner knows it is a *plum*, but as to its comparative value with the finer sorts, he knows little about it. He has, perhaps, never seen, or even heard of, the rich specimens of this and other delicious fruits which, in their season, are exhibited every week at the Horticultural Rooms in Boston, and does not know, perhaps, that, if he were disposed, he could obtain buds from any of these choice varieties, and by transferring these to his wilding trees, in a few years be in possession of fruits worthy of cultivation.

The Pear is also sadly neglected, and in a section of the country where we were familiar with the fruits 25 years since, the same old varieties of indifferent pears are still all that are known and cultivated, with few exceptions. We advise our friends in the country to delegate one or more of their townsmen to become members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and attend the weekly exhibitions, but more especially the annual exhibition, that they may see what can be done in our climate by a persevering effort to bring into general notice fine fruits, &c., to disseminate Horticultural knowledge. Many of the professional gentlemen in the country take a lively interest in the cultivation of fine fruit, and among them the clergy stand pre-eminent. We called upon one of this profession last week, whose recreation and relaxation are found in the collection and cultivation of choice fruits. Of apples, he had 45 varieties, many of them not generally known, and very superior. He had, also, fine peaches, plums, and other fruit.

We can conceive of no employment which would be so sure a preventive of the diseases that too often afflict the man of sedentary life, as that of spending a few hours every day in his garden among his trees, making them the objects of his care, and interesting himself in collecting the best fruit that his country affords. The example of one such man, in every town, would do much towards bringing about a revolution in fruit culture in the country, while, at the same time, it would be conducive to his own good health, and the gratification of his family and friends.

Communicated.

GRUBBING BUSHES IN AUGUST—CUTTING TIMBER

Although too late now to be of any practical utility, yet I would like to add a word to what has been already said about August being the proper time for extirpating bushes in cultivated grounds. Those who regard lunar influences should remember that any particular phase of the moon may be two weeks earlier or later one year than another. With due deference, it appears to be time now that *reasoning, intelligent* minds should look to other causes for the production of given effects.

That August is the best time for destroying every kind of woody growth, admits, I think, of philosophical explanation. Your correspondent "A. G." has not made it entirely plain, but he has approached it very nearly. There is, then, as many farmers may have remarked, a period in August when the circulation of the sap is apparently suspended. It is the interval between the summer and autumnal growths,—during which, trees take a few days of repose, previous to making the second growth. This usually occurs in this latitude about the 20th of the month, though it may be a very few days earlier or later, according to the progress of the season. Those persons who have been in the habit of inoculating fruit trees cannot have failed to observe it. The bark ceases to peal, and the nurseryman has to suspend his operations for the while.

The same effect is visible (though perhaps in a less obvious degree) in the forest. For many years I have frequently watched closely for this period in vegetation, in order to have timber cut for farming purposes, as well as to destroy noxious shrubs; and I have invariably remarked that whenever a tree is felled, or even belted, at this time, no sprout will ever afterwards be thrown up by the roots or stump. On one occasion, my meadow was greatly infested with what is called *round cap*, (Cephalanthus occidentalis,) which I had been warring against, at *other* seasons, for several years. Scarcely a vestige remained after the August attack.

Virginia, Aug. 26th.

☞We should be extremely happy to hear often from the distinguished gentleman who communicated the above,—whose name is identified with the progress of American agriculture,—whose zeal to promote the prosperity of the farming interest is only exceeded by his abilities,—and who, for more than quarter of a century has been constantly laboring to advance the cause of agricultural improvement, and whose pen is still actively employed in efforts to benefit the farming community. Such a man is, emphatically, a philanthropist.

SELECTING SEED.

Since it is very clear that the quality of the product depends, in a great measure, upon the excellence of the seed, too much pains cannot be taken to select seed which is of a superior quality; and the labor expended on this object will always amply repay for itself. It is practicable—for it has been proved—in the case of corn, for example, to get improved varieties by a few years' care in the selection of seed. No one needs to be told in what that care consists, it being merely to save those ears for seed which are the largest and have the best developed kernels, and which are found on the most prolific stalks. The instances are many throughout the country, where, by the exercise of this care, for successive years, improved varieties of corn have been obtained. It is a desideratum of no small importance with us in New England, to get a variety of corn, which, equaling the best of our present varieties in productiveness, shall be earlier in maturing, that it may be the less exposed to injury from frosts. We do not believe the attainment of this is impracticable, if the requisite attention were given to effect it, in the selection of seed. At any rate, the experiment is worth trying, and we commend it to the attention of those who have the facilities for testing it. Take the *earliest* matured ears of the *most productive* variety you have; save these for seed; pursue this course for successive years, and, if the doctrine that "like produces like," is not fallacious, the result must be, ultimately, the attainment of an early and productive variety. Such is our presumption.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The approaching Annual Exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, will doubtless be one of the most splendid ever held, if it does not exceed all previous ones. The season has been more than usually favorable for the growth and perfection of fruit, of which we anticipate an unequalled display at this exhibition; while the flowers will be well represented by many and fine specimens. Our country friends, who can, conveniently, should make preparations to attend on one of the days of the exhibition. Many, doubtless, would see samples of the productions of Flora and Pomona, that would alike surprise and gratify them. The Exhibition takes place on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of this month.

☞The length of the report of the exhibition of Fruits on Saturday last, compels us to exclude it from this number. The exhibition surpassed all previous weekly shows within our remembrance. The Plums were particularly fine and numerous in variety.

Erratum.—In our notice of the farm of J. S. C. Green, Esq., last week, a typographical error made us say that the superintendent, Mr Murray, is particular not to have the heat in his manure heaps exceed 80 or 90 degrees. It should have read, 89 or 90.

Preserving Pumpkins.—At one of the late meetings of the New York Farmers' Club, a gentleman sent a pumpkin of last years' growth, which he had preserved, with others, as follows: He selected only such as were dead ripe, and deposited them in a shed opening to the South. He laid a tier of them upon rails, so as to admit a circulation of air; then another tier of rails, so laid as not to rest upon the pumpkins; then another layer of pumpkins, and so on, till he had deposited all he wished to preserve. He left them in this condition as long as they could remain without freezing, and then placed them on shelves in a warm room.

Professorship of Agriculture.—We are pleased to learn that a Professorship of Agriculture has been established at Amherst College, Mass., and the appointment of Professor conferred upon Alonzo Gray, author of "Elements of Scientific and Practical Agriculture."—*Alb. Cult.*

☞Those to whom bills for the Farmer have been sent, are requested to forward us the amount as soon as may be, through the Postmaster.

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

☞ An Adjourned Meeting of the Society will be held on SATURDAY, September 7th, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

EBENEZER WIGHT,
Sept. 4, 1844. *Rec. Sec'ry.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Aug. 25.

Aug., 1844.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	26	58	72	66	W.
Tuesday,	27	55	63	63	N.
Wednesday,	28	60	70	66	E.
Thursday,	29	53	74	68	W
Friday,	30	56	73	66	N. W.
Saturday,	31	55	77	64	E.
Sunday,	1	63	71	64	E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 2, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 950 Beef Cattle, 70 Stores, 2100 Sheep and 950 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Prices have further declined. We quote first quality, $4,25 a $4,50. Second quality, $3,75 a 4,25. Third quality, $3, a 3,50,

Stores.—No sales of much account noticed.

Sheep.—Lambs from $1,25 to 2. Old Sheep from $1,75 to 2,25.

Swine.—Shoats to peddle, 4 1-4 a 4 1-2. Ohio Hogs, 3 1-2 a 3 3-4. At retail, from 4 to 5 1 2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 25 a 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 60 to 100 cents. Clover—Northern, 10 to 11c.—Southern, 9 a 10 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. The transactions of the week have not been to much extent, and prices have been pretty uniform.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel (none) 00—Southern, round yellow, (none) 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, 50 a 51—do. do. white 45 a 46—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 00 a 00—do. Southern, 60 a 62 —Oats, Southern, 26 a 28—Northern do. 28 to 29—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 22 a 25—Bran, 18 a 20.

FLOUR. The market is without any essential change compared with the last weekly report; the arrivals have been light, and prices for good fresh parcels are sustained. Dealers have very little apprehension of any further decline, and appear disposed to operate pretty freely at present going rates. The season for souring being nearly over, manufacturers and other buyers are picking up all the lots of unsound Flour that are in market, and during the past week considerable sales have been made of Ohio sour.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 12 a 4 18—do. wharf, $0 00 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $4 25 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 05 a 4 12 —Fredericksburg, low P'd 4 mos. $4 06 a 4 12—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 4 06 a 4 12. —Georgetown, $4 18 a 4 25—Richmond Canal, $4 12 a 4 25 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 31 a 4 37— do fancy brands $4 44 a 4 50 — Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 20 a 3 25—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 50 a 2 56.

PROVISIONS. The market is without much change. Demand for Pork limited, but in Lard there has been a good deal doing.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $6 50 a 7 00—Navy—$6 00 a 6 50.—No. 1, $5 50 a 6 00—do Prime $3 50 a 4 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $11 00 a 11 50 do. Mess, $9 50 a 9 75—do Prime $7 50 a 8 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 00 a 00—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 17 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5¾ a 6¼— Hams, Boston, 7 a 00 — Southern and Western, 5 a 6½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

Sales to a moderate extent of pulled and fleece have been made, at our quoted rates.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 a 55 c.--American full blood, do 43 a 47--Do. 3-4 do 40 a 42--Do. 1-2 do 37 a 40 -1-4 and common do 32 a 35 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25-- Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a 13--Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 42 a 45—No. 1 do. do. do. 37 a 40—No. 2 do do do 25 a 33—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 7 a 7¼ ; 2d do 5 a 6.

HAY, 12 to 15 per ton—Eastern Screwed $9 50 to 10 50.

EGGS, 12.

STRAWBERRIES!

The subscriber can supply all the most esteemed varieties of Strawberries now in cultivation. The present is considered a good time for the formation of new beds. The following are the prices per hundred plants :—

Hovey's Seedling—a very superior variety, of large sized fine flavor, abundant bearer, and very hardy, $2,00

Keene's Seedling—Large fruit, very high flavor and high perfume, $2,00

Bishop's Orange—Fine size, abundant bearer and superior flavor. $2,00

Elton Seedling—Very large fruit of a superior flavor, considered one of the best in England, $2,00

Myatt's Pine—A delicious fruit, $3,00

Early Virginia, $1,00

English Wood, $1,00

Orders sent by mail enclosing the money will be punctually attended to, and the plants well packed for transportation. JOSEPH BRECK.

Boston, Aug. 6, 1844.

GLASS SUPERCEDED FOR HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Chemical Transparent water proof composition, for rendering Muslin, Cotton, or Linen, for the frames of Greenhouses, pine, melon or cucumber Stoves, &c., impervious to rain, or moisture, and admitting light equal to glass, the burning rays of the sun alone being obstructed. Houses, pits or frames covered with cloth prepared with this composition, embrace important advantages over glass. The light being equally diffused in every part of the house; plants placed on the floor have as much light as those close to the covering, consequently they are not drawn up as under glass, while they continue much longer in bloom, and preserve their delicate tints unfaded until the blossom falls. These facts are gathered from undoubted English authority, and so far as this prepared cloth has been tried in this country has given entire satisfaction, and no doubt will be instrumental of a very great improvement in the Horticulture of this country.

For framing of all sorts, as well as green houses, it will answer an excellent purpose, as it prevents the radiation of heat, and obstructs the burning rays of the sun ; it will give a congenial, moist atmosphere for plants in general. The cost is so trifling that it may be brought into general use for the growing of sallads, radishes, &c., and in a particular manner for Strawberries, Gooseberries and other small fruit which in our climate would be much improved by screening from the burning sun.

This composition is prepared for the subscribers, by a person competent, and will be warranted equal to Whitney's imported from England.

For sale at No. 52, North Market street, at the Agricultural Warehouse, up stairs.

July 30. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

CHEESE PRESSES.

Self-acting and other Cheese Presses, of the most approved kinds, for sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 52 North Market street, by J. BRECK & Co.

SILK COCOONS WANTED.

The subscriber will *pay cash* for good Cocoons, assorted, and well flossed. They are worth, according to kind and quality, from $2 to $4 per bushel, measure rounded.

J. R. BARBOUR.

Oxford, July 10.

CIDER MILL FOR SALE.

A first rate Cider Mill, with good Screws, in complete order, will be sold cheap, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

July 23.

GARDENER'S KNIVES,

And other implements for garden purposes, in great variety and of superior quality. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, N. Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HOES.

The best kind in the Market. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Annual Exhibition of Fruits and Flowers by the Mass. Hort. Society, at their Hall 23 Tremont Row, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 18th, 19th and 20th Sept. 1844.

The annual Exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, will be held at their Hall on the 18th, 19th and 20th Sept., at which time and place the members and the public are respectfully invited to send choice and superior specimens of Plants, Fruits and Flowers. The following premiums will be awarded on the *first day* of the Exhibition, viz.

Flowers.

Designs for ornamenting the Hall at the Annual Exhibition.

For the most appropriate design	7 00
Second best "	5 00
Third best "	3 00

Bouquets.

Best	4 00
Second best	2 00
Third best	1 00

Dahlias.

Division A, open to all Cultivators.

Premier Prize—Best 12 dissimilar blooms	4 00
Specimen bloom	2 00

First Class.

Division B, open to all cultivators of more than 200 plants.

For the best 18 dissimilar blooms	4 00
Second best	2 00

Second Class.

For the best 12 dissimilar blooms	2 50
Second best "	1 50

Third Class.

For the best 6 dissimilar blooms	1 50
Second best "	1 00

Division C, open to all cultivators of less than 200 plants.

First Class.

For the best 18 dissimilar blooms	4 00
Second best "	2 00

Second Class.

For the best 12 dissimilar blooms	2 50
Scond best	1 50

Third Class.

For the best 6 dissimilar blooms	1 50
Second best "	1 00

Balsams and Asters.

Double Balsams.

Best display	2 00
Second best do.	1 00

German Asters.

Best display	2 00
Second best do.	1 00

Roses.

Hardy perpetual best.

Six varieties	3 00
Other roses	3 00

Fruits.

Apples.—For the greatest number of kinds and the best grown, a premium of six dollars.

For the next best, do. do. a premium of four dollars.

Pears.—For the greatest number of kinds and the best grown, a premium of six dollars.

For the next best do. do. a premium of four dollars.

Grapes.—For the greatest number of kinds and the best grown, a premium of seven dollars.

For the second best do. do. a premium of five dollars.

For the third best do. do. a premium of three dollars.

Assorted Fruits.—For the best basket of fruit of various kinds, a premium of seven dollars.

For the next best do. do. a premium of three dollars.

For the best dish of Apples, not less than twelve specimens, a premium of three dollars.

For the best dish of Pears, not less than twelve specimens, a premium of three dollars.

Assorted Fruits exhibited in baskets, shall not be entitled to any other than the premium for such.

The above premiums to be awarded on the first day of the exhibition.

Contributors of Fruits and Plants are respectfully requested to present their specimens to the committee, at the Hall on Monday and Tuesday 16th and 17th—Cut Flowers will be received on Wednesday morning, when they must be in the stands by 9 o'clock,—as the judges will then proceed to award the premiums. Per order,

Aug. 26. S. WALKER, *Chairman.*

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Safe Mode of Blasting.—It is known to many individuals, though not to the public generally, that rocks may be blasted without ramming down pounded brick on the charge. This is the mode. Put a rye straw into the hole; if one be not long enough, use two, running the top of one into the other, tying paper around the joint. Then put in the charge of powder, and prime the straw, and then fill up the hole with fine dry sand, without ramming. Nothing more is necessary preparatory to touching the match.

We lately saw at the place of the Brook Farm Association, the effects of blasting, under direction of Mr Holland, who has tried both modes, and it seemed the greatest execution was done by the use of sand. Mr Abel Kenny, of Dorchester, informs us that a person once blasting for him, pursued this mode in more than one hundred cases, and it was attended with good success.

In the common mode of blasting, there is danger in ramming down the brick, in drawing out the wire, and in drilling out a charge that fails. By the mode we have named, all these dangers are entirely obviated, and the business rendered safe, for if a charge fails, and there be any danger in taking out the sand and powder with a scoop, water may be turned in, and then the whole removed with safety.

One person was lately much injured in Dedham by a discharge while ramming down, and we named, not long since, an instance of injury in West Cambridge, by drilling out a charge with the use of water. Many lives are lost, and more are wounded every year by blasting; and this safe mode is worthy of trial.—*Bost. Cult.*

An Ugly Customer.—One night last week, says the New Haven Herald, some fishermen of Milford, while fishing for sturgeon, on what is called Sturgeon Bar, on drawing their net to shore, found a monstrous large fish was in it, and supposed it to be an extraordinary large sturgeon, but on further acquaintance it was found to be a monstrous *shark*. Being in a position, however, so as not to do much damage, he was soon despatched and drawn upon the shore. On measuring him, he was found to be ten feet ten inches in length, and five feet seven inches in circumference, with a supply of provisions in his larder sufficient for several days.

Singular Cure of Consumption.—The Natchez Free Trader mentions a case of a man who came there a few years since in a far gone consumption, and who, by abstaining from *water, meat and fluids*, has become to be a powerful and robust man. This is the first instance on record, probably, of a man becoming powerful and robust on such slim fare.

It is not improbable, says the Newburyport Herald, that the above may have been a case of real cure of that dreadful disease. Of the efficacy of entire abstinence from fluids of every kind in curing ordinary coughs and colds, we have been assured by physicians who have tried it. A common cold may be cured in three days by an entire disuse of fluids.

Curious Relics.—Among the relics of the Historical Society of New Haven, Ct., there is a cane manufactured from the root of the tree on which the Salem witches were hung; the old oak chest formerly in possession of the family of Aaron Burr, the arm chair of Roger Williams; General Putnam's old tavern sign, with a portrait of General Wolfe painted thereon; a part of the keel of Capt. Cook's old ship "Endeavor," that passed round the world, and finally ended her days at Newport, R. I.; the casket and glass found with Capt. Nathan Hale, who was hung by the British, on Long Island, as a spy, during the revolution, in retaliation for the execution of Andre; and last, but not least, the order book of a British Adjutant, containing the "orders" of the British army on the day of the memorable battle of Bunker Hill, one sheet of which is stained and stamped for eternal endurance, with a drop—a single drop of human blood!

Colton, the author of Lacon, says "Some females will forgive a liberty, but not a slight. You may steal her picture without offence, though it were set in gold; but if you steal the frame, and leave the portrait, you are a doomed man."

In connexion with the above comes the following: "What can I give you to remember me by?" said a disconsolate girl down east to her intended, as he mounted his cart on a peddling expedition with tin notions. "You haint got five dollars about you, have you?" said Nehemiah. The young lady "hollered right out loud," and the match was broken off.

A poor man once came to a miser and said, "I have a boon to ask."

"So have I," said the miser; "grant mine first, then I will comply with thine."

"Agreed."

"My request is," said the miser, "that you ask me for nothing."

Scandalous.—It is said that the chickens hatched in the natural way in New York, do n't agree with those hatched by the Eccaleobion, or steam machine. One of the former lately told one of the latter, that his maternal parent was an *old stove.*—This, though truth, is libellous.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

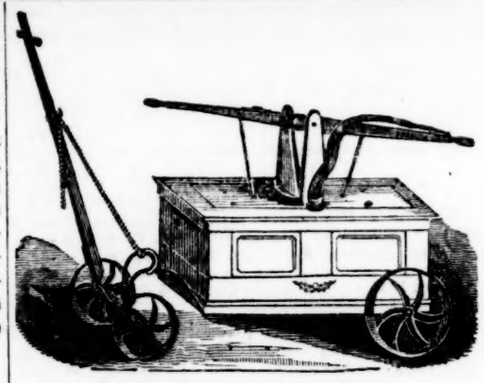
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.



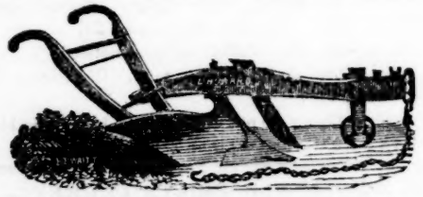
SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINES.

A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 to 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

Boston, June 4.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.